

Atty Docket ONYX1034-CON1
S rial N . 10/053,422

2

In the Claims, please amend the claims accordingly

Claims 1 – 5: Withdrawn

Claim 6 (newly amended): A method of diagnosing a cell suspected of being a cancer cell, comprising the steps of isolating stabilized b-catenin from said suspect cell and a normal cell, and determining the amount of b-catenin present in both said suspect and normal cells, and diagnosing said suspect cell as a cancer cell if the suspect cell exhibits elevated levels of stabilized b-catenin compared to the normal cell.

Claim 7 (newly amended): A method as described in claim 6 wherein said cancer cell is colon cancer.

Claim 8 (newly amended): A method as described in claim 6 wherein said cancer cell is melanoma.

Claims 9 – 11: Withdrawn

Please add the following new claims:

--Claim 12 (new): A method of diagnosing if a suspect cell is a cancer cell, comprising the steps of isolating b-catenin mRNA from a normal cell and suspect cell, and analyzing said mRNA from said normal and suspect cells, and diagnosing said suspect cell as a cancer cell if it has an unusual mRNA processing profile compared to said mRNA from said normal cell.

Claim 13 (new): A method as described in claim 12, where in said unusual mRNA processing profile from said suspect cell comprises lacking exon 2.

2